



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF TREASURY
LANSING

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MICHIGAN EDUCATION TRUST TO HOST CHARITABLE EVENT

LANSING, MI SEPTEMBER 7, 2012 — The Michigan Education Trust (MET) is hosting its first ever Charitable Event to help Michigan foster care students attend college through MET's Charitable Tuition Program. MET's Fostering Futures was created to help teens who emancipate from foster care and want to attend college but do not have the resources available to them. The first Fostering Futures dinner will be held on Friday, September 28 from 6-9 PM at Meadow Brook Hall in Rochester, MI. The event is sponsored by Huntington Bank, the Michigan Education Savings Program, and Stout Risius Ross, Inc. Tickets for the dinner are \$100 per person.

Those unable to attend the charitable event can make donations of any dollar amount to the MET Charitable Tuition Program. Visit SETwithMET.com and click on "Charitable Opportunities" to make a contribution. All contributions to the MET Charitable Tuition Program are eligible for a state income tax deduction.

"A very small percentage of foster care students gain access to higher education institutions," stated Robin Lott, MET Executive Director. "This is a great opportunity to help those foster care students who are motivated to pursue a higher education despite their challenging situation."

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There are approximately 4,000 students in the Michigan foster care system, but fewer than ten percent who graduate from high school enroll in college, and of those, less than one percent graduate from college. There are currently four Michigan public colleges that have implemented programs to help students who have aged out of the foster care system. Ferris State University, Michigan State University, University of Michigan - Ann Arbor, and Western Michigan University, all work to help foster care students secure funding for tuition, fees, room, board, and books in addition to offering them counseling and a support system. The money collected through the MET Fostering Futures event will go to each of these universities, to provide scholarships for foster care students.

About MET Charitable Tuition Program

The MET Charitable Tuition Program is a way for an organization or individual to purchase from one to four years of college for a deserving individual in Michigan at a discounted price for this program. With this charitable program contracts cost less than a traditional MET contract, but still enjoy the benefits of locking in tomorrow's tuition at today's rates.

To purchase a Charitable Tuition Contract, purchasers are asked to read the 2012 MET Charitable Tuition Contract; review the contract price charts, and complete and submit the MET Charitable Tuition Program Contract Signature Page. Charitable Tuition Program Contracts postmarked by December 31 are eligible for a tax deduction on state income tax form in the year they are made.

[About MET](#)

Since its debut in 1988 as the nation's first prepaid tuition program, MET has sold more than 96,000 contracts. Contributions are eligible for a Michigan income tax deduction and grow tax-free if used for qualified expenses. MET contracts are portable to Michigan private and out-of-state colleges and universities and may be transferred to other eligible family members. More than 90 percent of high school graduates with MET contracts have attended a college or university.

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